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MSGID/GENADMIN/SECNAV WASHINGTON DC/-/OCT//

SUBJ/2013 DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVEY//

REF/A/DOC/SECNAVINST 5430.108/10JUN10//
NARR/REF A is Mission and Functions of the Department of the Navy Sexual
Assault Prevention and Response Office//

RMKS/1. This ALNAV announces the 2013 Department of the Navy (DON) Sexual
Assault Survey.

2. Applicability. This ALNAV applies to all military personnel DON-wide.

3. Purpose. There is no place for any form of sexual assault in the DON. Working in partnership, the Chief of Naval Operations, the Commandant of the Marine Corps and I are mutually committed to confronting the challenge of sexual assault across the Department. Our simultaneous goals are to prevent, if not eliminate, sexual assaults involving Sailors and Marines; to ensure effective support for sexual assault victims; and to hold offenders appropriately accountable. Unfortunately, there is no proven road map for achieving success. We will invariably break new ground in doing so, and we may need to make course adjustments along the way. We have taken important steps already, and we will do more. Our core values demand no less of us all.

4. In order to assess the effectiveness of our efforts, it is important for us to understand trends in the true number of sexual assaults, whether reported or not. There is no simple way to do so. In this regard, we believe that recent increases in sexual assault reporting by Sailors and Marines reflect increasing trust in our Sexual Assault Prevention and Response programs and recent training about exactly what constitutes sexual assault. While no tool is perfect, confidential and anonymous surveys provide a valuable different mechanism to learn about the perspectives and experiences of individual Sailors and Marines.

5. I have directed the Department of the Navy Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office (DON SAPRO) to conduct a voluntary, anonymous, Department-wide sexual assault survey to explore the true frequency of sexual assaults involving Sailors and Marines, the circumstances surrounding those assaults, and factors affecting their reporting. We will use this information to help build and assess our sexual assault prevention and victim support activities.

6. The 2013 DON-Wide Sexual Assault Survey is short and completely anonymous. It can be accessed from any web-enabled computer, tablet or smartphone at www.donsapro.navy.mil/donsas.html beginning 15 October 2013. The password for all military participants is "2013Survey" and the survey

will be available through 6 January 2014.

7. The success of this survey, just like our larger efforts to combat sexual assault, depends on the support and contribution of Sailors and Marines world-wide. I encourage every Sailor and Marine to participate. Commanders and leaders at every level shall encourage and facilitate participation as well. Just as important, I also ask every participant to provide their most honest inputs on this vital subject. I am inspired every day by the energy and commitment of Sailors and Marines. Together, we can show the nation what it takes to confront and overcome the intolerable scourge of sexual assault.

8. I am directing you to provide DON SAPRO assistance as they require.

9. Released by Ray Mabus, Secretary of the Navy.

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